

SENATE No. 326

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the foundation budget review commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

SENATE No. 326

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 326) of Bruce E. Tarr and Ryan C. Fattman for legislation relative to the foundation budget review commission. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to the foundation budget review commission.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary there shall be a
2 foundation budget review commission to review, every 3 years, the way foundation budgets are
3 calculated to make recommendations for potential changes in those calculations as the
4 commission deems appropriate. In conducting such review, the commission shall seek to
5 determine the educational programs and services necessary to achieve the commonwealth's
6 educational goals and to prepare students to achieve passing scores on the Massachusetts
7 Comprehensive Assessment System examinations or other designated statewide assessments.
8 The review shall include, but not be limited to, those components of the foundation budget
9 created pursuant to section 3 of chapter 70 and subsequent changes made to the foundation
10 budget by law. In addition, the commission shall seek to determine and recommend measures to
11 promote the adoption of ways in which resources can be most effectively utilized and consider
12 various models of efficient and effective resource allocation. In carrying out the review, the

13 commissioner of elementary and secondary education shall provide to the commission any data
14 and information the commissioner considers relevant to the commission's charge.

15 The commission shall include the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on
16 education, who shall serve as co-chairs, the secretary of education, the commissioner of
17 elementary and secondary education, the commissioner of early education and care, the speaker
18 of the house of representatives or a designee, the president of the senate or a designee, the
19 minority leader of the house of representatives or a designee, the minority leader of the senate or
20 a designee, the governor or a designee, the chair of the house committee on ways and means or a
21 designee, the chair of the senate committee on ways and means or a designee and 1 member to
22 be appointed by each of the following organizations: the Massachusetts Municipal Association,
23 Inc., the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education, Inc., the Massachusetts Association of
24 School Committees, Inc., the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Inc., the
25 Massachusetts Teachers Association, the American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, the
26 Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, Inc., the Massachusetts Association of
27 Regional Schools, Inc. and the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials.
28 Members shall not receive compensation for their services but may receive reimbursement for
29 the reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their responsibilities as members of the
30 commission. The commissioner of elementary and secondary education shall furnish reasonable
31 staff and other support for the work of the commission. Prior to issuing its recommendations, the
32 commission shall conduct not fewer than 4 public hearings across regions of the commonwealth.
33 The commission shall be considered a special commission established by section 2A of chapter 4
34 and shall be subject to the provisions of said section 2A of chapter 4. It shall not constitute a
35 violation of chapter 268A for state employee or a person employed by a school district to serve

36 on the commission or to participate in commission deliberations that may have a financial impact
37 on the district employing that person, on the commonwealth, or on the rate at which that person
38 may be compensated. The commission may establish procedures to ensure that no such person
39 participates in commission deliberations that may directly affect the school districts employing
40 those persons or that may directly affect the rate at which those persons are compensated.

41 The first report pursuant to section 9 of this act shall be made on or before November 1,
42 2018."